

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 SOE-02 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-13
/216 W

-----032526 121617Z /41

R 121421Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1198
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID
SUBJECT: MEETING OF DAC MEMBERS WITH ARAB OPEC AID
DONORS - JUNE 19-20, 1978

REF: PARIS 18518

1. KUWAIT FUND DIRECTOR GENERAL AL-HAMAD HAS ALREADY LEFT KUWAIT FOR MEETINGS PRIOR TO DAC MEETING AND ARAB FUND OFFICIALS ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE. OUR PAST DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM INDICATE THAT THEY WILL WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WAYS AND MEANS TO IMPROVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, DISCUSS CO-FINANCING AND COOPERATION. HOWEVER, THEY WISH TO AVOID BUZZ-WORD OF "TRIANGULAR COOPERATION" WHICH TO THEM HAS UNWELCOME CONNOTATION OF "WITH YOUR MONEY AND MY BRAINS, WHAT WE COULD DO TOGETHER."

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2. KUWAIT AND ARAB FUND OFFICIALS ARE SENSITIVE TO FACT THAT THEIR DISBURSEMENT/COMMITMENT RATIOS ARE NOT AS HIGH AS THEY WOULD LIKE THEM TO BE. THEY REALIZE THE INADEQUACIES OF POTENTIAL RECIPIENT COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA, BUT STILL FEEL THESE COUNTRIES COULD BE DOING A BETTER JOB OF COOPERATING WITH THEM TO SPEED PROJECTS ALONG. IN KUWAIT COMMON, NOW ALMOST

TRITE, SCENARIO IS FOR AFRICAN/LDC HEAD OF STATE TO
COME HERE HAT IN HAND AND LEAVE WITH JOINT AGREEMENT
FOR KUWAIT FUND OR ARAB FUND (FOR ARAB COUNTRIES ONLY)
TO SEND DELEGATION TO EXAMINE PROJECTS. FUNDS THEN
SPEND MONTHS TRYING TO GET SUPPOSEDLY NEEDY RECIPIENT
COUNTRY TO ANSWER THEIR TELEXES PROPOSING VISIT OF
TEAM OF ECONOMISTS TO LOOK INTO POSSIBLE PROJECTS AND
SOMETIMES MUCH LONGER TIME TO GET LDC'S TO SIGN PROJECT
AGREEMENTS. HOW TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM WILL BE ON
THEIR MINDS.

3. KUWAIT AND ARAB FUNDS DO NOT WANT AID/USG TO ACT
AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THEM AND POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS.
THEY KNOW WE ARE ON THE GROUND IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE; THEY
ARE NOT. THEY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY EFFORTS WE CAN MAKE
TO ASSIST POTENTIAL RECIPIENTS OF THEIR FUNDS IN DOING
A BETTER JOB IN PREPARING PROJECT PROPOSALS THAT THE
RECIPIENTS -- NOT THE USG OFFICIALS -- CAN THEN RAISE
DIRECTLY WITH THEM.
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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